

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 02199 200842Z
ACTION EA-12

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-----111535 210221Z /73
R 200759Z JUL 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1414
INFO USDA/FAS WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EAGR CH

SUBJ: CROPS IN SHANGHAI AND CANTON

1. USLO OFFICER ACCOMPANYING ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE CUTLER VISITED CHIATING COUNTY IN NORTHERN SHANGHAI JULY 12, WAS TOLD THAT TEMPERATURES AS HIGH AS 40 DEGREES CENTIGRADE HAD OCCURRED IN PREVIOUS FEW DAYS, BUT THAT HEAVY RAINS HAD BROKEN THE HEAT WAVE. TEMPERATURE JULY 12 WAS ABOUT 30 DEGREES CENTRIGADE. RICE, COTTON, SOYBEANS, AND VEGETABLES WERE IN EXCELLENT CONBYTION, THOUGH SOME HEAT WILT WAS OBSERVED ON COTTON. WE WERE TOLD THAT PROSPECTIVE YIELD FOR RICE WAS GOOD, BUT THAT IT WAS TOO EARLY TO TELL FOR COTTON, WHICH WAS JUST SQUARING.

2. ON JULY 13 AND 14, TSUNGHUA COUNTY 80 KM NORTHEAST OF CANTON AND FOSHAN CITY, 40 KM SOUTBWEST OF CANTON, WERE VISITED. WEATHER WAS HOT (32) DEGREES CENTIGRADE) AND DRY. FIELDS LOOKED DRY, BUT IRRIGATION WATER APPEARED ADEQUATE. HARVEST WAS IN PROGRESS IN BOTH AREAS, AND PLOWING AND REPLANTING HAD ALREADY BEGUN IN FOSHAN. RICE YEILD APPEARED TO BE GOOD, ALTHOUGH NOT AS GOOD AS SHANGHAI. SOME RICE SEEDLINGS IN TSUNGHUA SHOWED YELLOWING TIPS, PERHAPS DUE TO LONG PERIOD OF HOT
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WEATHER. SUBSIDIARY CROPS SUCH AS PEANUTS, SUGAR CANE, SWEET POTATOES, AND VEGETABLES LOOKED GOOD. LICHEE CROP THIS YEAR IS POOR, HOWEVER, DUE TO COLD WEATHER WHEN THE TREES WERE IN FLOWER.
WOODCOCK

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